

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KUWAIT 01182 121045 Z

14

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

----- 049895

R 111335 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6389

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMDASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T KUWAIT 1182

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS KU

SUBJ: KUWAITI REQUEST FOR US ASSISTANCE WITH AIR COVER

REF: STATE 066152

1. I SAW FONMIN UNDERSEC RASHID MORNING APRIL 11 AND CONVEYED TO HIM FULL SUBSTANCE OF PARAS TWO AND THREE OF REFTEL. RASHID TOOK NOTES AND SAID HE WOULD PASS USG VIEWS ON TO PRIME MINISTER

AND FONMIN RIGHT AWAY.

2. RASHID ASKED ME WHAT I THOUGHT SAIDS WOULD BE PREPARED DO TO HELP KUWAIT IF NEED AROSE; ALSO WHETHER SAUDIS MIGHT BE WILLING ALLOW JORDANIAN AIRCRAFT TO VISIT OR BE STATIONED IN DHAHRAN IN ORDER TO BE CLOSE TO BUT NOT IN KUWAIT, IF IRAQI ATTACK SEEMED TO BE BUILDING UP. I REPLIED MY PURELY PERSONAL VIEW WAS SAUDIS MIGHT BE WILLING OFFER SOME SUPPORT WITH GROUND FORCES BUT ONLY IF KUWAITIS ASKED FOR IT; AND I THOUGHT BOTH KINGS FAISAL AND

HUSSEIN WOULD PROBABLY CONSIDER STATIONING JORDAN AN AIRFORCE UNITS IN DHAHRAN TO ASSIST KUWAIT A DUBIOUS PROPOSITION. IF KUWAIT NEEDED JORDAN' S AIR POWER QUICKLY, WHY NOT HAVE IT IN KUWAIT ITSELF?

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 KUWAIT 01182 121045 Z

3. RASHID SAID GOF HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH IRANIANS REGARDING

ITS PROBLEM WITH IRAQ, AND KUWAITI AMBASSADOR IN TEHRAN BEING
CALLED HOME FOR CONSULTATIONS.

4. RASHID SAID KUWAITIS QUIETLY PUTTING MODEST FORCES ON
WARBA (60-100 LIGHTLY ARMED MEN) AND BUBIYAN (150-200) TO
MAKE CLEAR TO IRAQIS THAT KUWAIT INTENDS HOLD THESE ISLANDS.

BOTH SIDES PRESENTLY ENGAGED IN WAR OF NERVES IN BORDER AND
ISLANDS AREA.

5. RASHID SAID PRIME MINISTER AND GOK MOST PLEASED THAT US
MILITARY TEAM ABOUT TO ARRIVE KUWAIT.

6. RE KUWAIT 1147. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOW ANSWERED IMMEDIATE
QUESTION OF KUWAIT'S NEED FOR AIR COVER, I STILL BELIEVE QUIET
USG EXPRESSION OF MORAL SUPPORT ALONG LINE SUGGESTED IARA 3 A
WOULD BE USEFUL AND TIMELY. SUGGEST I BE AUTHORIZED CONVEY SUCH
MESSAGE TO FONMIN SABA AND DEFMIN SAAD.

LTZFUS

SECRET

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KUWAIT01182
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730438/aaaaiboj.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 73 STATE 066152
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <09-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971217
Subject: KUWAITI REQUEST FOR US ASSISTANCE WITH AIR COVER
TAGS: MASS, KU
To: AMEMDASSY JIDDA
AMMAN
SECSTATE WASHDC
SS
TEHRAN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

